

Message Text

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72-S

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3761

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 03777

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, BE

SUBJECT: PRC VISIT OF BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER

REF: PEKING 793

1. INTERVIEW OF PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS ON SUBJECT OF CHINA VISIT, GIVEN IN KONG KONG APRIL 27 AND PUBLISHED IN LA LIBRE BELGIQUE NEXT DAY, CONTAINED FOLLOWING ITEMS OF INTEREST.

2. TINDEMANS SAID THAT DURING MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN MAO LATTER WAS INTERESTED MAINLY IN DISCUSSING INTERNATIONAL POLITICS, CHINA'S RELATIONS WITH US AND SOVIET UNION, AND DANGER HE SEES OF THIRD WORLD WAR. WHILE TINDEMANS SAW MAO AS MAN WHO INITIATED IDEAS AND GAVE DIRECTIVES, HE CHARACTERIZED CHOU EN-LAI, WITH WHOM HE ALSO MET, AS ONE USED TO "TAKING THE HELM", MAKING DECISIONS, AND WATCHING OVER NATIONAL UNITY.

3. TINDEMANS SAID CONVERSATIONS WITH MAO AND CHOU DROVE UNCLASSIFIED

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HOME IMPORTANCE TO CHINA OF "BALANCE OF FORCES"

ON INTERNATIONAL SCENE. HE NOTED THAT EUROPE IS VERY TO CHINA
IN CONTEXT OF FURTHER ALTERATION OF BIPOLAR SYSTEM WHICH EMERGED
AFTER SECOND WORLD WAR. HIS CHINESE INTERLOCUTORS, HE SAID,
COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY EUROPEAN INTEGRATION WAS NOT BEING
BROUGHT ABOUT MORE RAPIDLY AND WHY EUROPE WAS NOT DOING MORE
TO SOLVE ITS DEFENSE PROBLEMS.

4. ON VIET-NAM AND KOREA, TINDEMANS SAID VICE PREMIER
CHI TENG-K'UEI, HAD TAKEN POSITION THAT TENSION WOULD
DISAPPEAR THROUGH APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLE OF SELF-
DETERMINATION AND THAT DIVIDED NATIONS COULD BE REUNIFIED
ONLY THROUGH OWN INITIATIVE. CHI ALSO HAD SPOKEN AT LENGTH ON
REPORT RELEASED IN FEBRUARY BY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
SCHLESINGER. TINDEMANS SAID CHINESE HAD BEEN IMPRESSED
BY REPORT WHICH THEY APPARENTLY HAD ANALYZED
"IN TERMS OF THE POLICY OF MR. KISSINGER." FIRESTONE

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